

**CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**  
**BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA**  
**Work Session – Monday, January 29, 2018**

Pursuant to due call and notice, a work session of the City Council of the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, was held on Monday, January 29, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of City Hall, Mayor Albrecht presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Albrecht, Meehlhause, Hellquist, Johnson, Lehmann Absent: Larson, Erickson

Staff Present: City Manager Nate Mathews, City Attorney Al Felix, City Engineer Craig Gray, Parks & Recreation Director Marcia Larson, Deputy City Clerk Michelle Miller

Others Present: Kevin Waldhausen, Tom Kuesel

Albrecht stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Hockey Day event.

**Hockey Day 2019**

Event organizer Tom Kuesel stated that the City of Bemidji has been chosen to host Hockey Day Minnesota in January or February of 2019. The event celebrates not only hockey in Minnesota but, more particularly, outdoor hockey. In order to be chosen, organizers had to show a financial ability as well as have a strong youth hockey organization and strong community involvement. Organizers are looking to host the event on property in the South Shore development owned by the Bemidji Economic Development Authority. There are several requests that would be made to the City, including, but not limited to the following:

- Use of two lots located in South Shore Addition, with a contingency placed on those lots to not allow any development until after March of 2019
- Closure of Central Avenue within South Shore Addition
- Use of the parking lot within South Shore Addition
- Use of the South Shore Old Mill Building
- Water to flood the rink

Felix stated that a formal request to use the lots would have to be brought before the Bemidji Economic Development Authority. Kuesel stated that the approval of the use of the lots could be done by way of a resolution.

No action was taken regarding the Hockey Day discussion.

**Paul and Babe Statues**

Mathews stated that the policy set in 2014 to ban dressing of the statues of Paul Bunyan and Babe might need to be revisited by Council. Waldhausen stated that the group would be very pleased if they were allowed to dress Paul on the day of the event but that they are not seeking a policy change. Albrecht stated that this discussion should take place when all council members are present. No action was taken on this matter.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Hellquist, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle R. Miller  
Deputy City Clerk